

## CLAIMS

We Claim:

1. A surgical instrument for treating female urinary stress incontinence comprising:
  - a) a mesh for implanting into the lower abdomen of a female to provide support to the urethra;
  - b) a first curved needle element defining in part a curved shaft having a distal end and a proximal end, the proximal end having means for attaching to the mesh;
  - c) a second curved needle element having a proximal end and a distal end; and
  - d) coupling means for simultaneous attachment to the distal end of the first needle and the distal end of the second needle.
2. A surgical instrument for treating female urinary stress incontinence comprising:
  - a) a mesh for implanting into the lower abdomen of a female to provide support to the urethra and comprising a first coupling means at both ends of the mesh; and
  - b) a curved needle element defining in part a curved shaft having a distal end and a proximal end, the distal end having second coupling means for attaching to the first coupling means.